WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Patient Care Allowance has been sanctioned by this Ministry to Group 'C and 'D' (Non-Ministerial) employees of the Central Government Hospitals and Hospitals under the Delhi Administration from 1.12.1987.

(b) Since Health CentresjDispensaries do not fall under the definition of hospitals, their employees are not eligible for th fc allowance.

Bombay /Delhi-London flight

992. SHRl BHAGATRAM MANHAR; SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH;

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India has started flights from Bombay|Delhi to London recently;

'(b) whether it is also a fact that Pilots Guild of Air-India has opposed this move of introducing direct flight to London;

(c) if so, what are their demands;

'(d) whether the Pilots Guild have also demanded extra crew and compensation for long flight on this route; and

(e) if so, what decision Air India has taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA); (a) to (e) Air-India have started non-stop direct flights from. Bombay to London and Delhi to London with effect from 15.2.1988. Pilots have opposed this move but are operating the flights under protest. In the meantime, the Indian Pilots Guild representing the Pilots of Air India have filed a writ petition in the Bombay High Court challenging the administrative order issued by Air India regarding the introduction of non-stop direct flights and the writ petition is under the consideration of the Court. Therefore, the matter is subjudice.

Refusal of accommodation in Indian Airlines flight to passengers with tickets

993. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA; SHRl GURUDAS DAS GUPTA;

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION bepleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in the Telegraph dated the 25th December, 19S7 regarding refusal of accommodation to 45 girls with tickets from Calcutta to Port Blair by flight IC-285; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a party of 45 girls booked to travel on IC-285 of 24th December, 1987, only 30 seats could De confirmed on 18th November, 1987 and 15 seats were wait-listed. Subsequently,' with a view to helping the group, the entire group was confirmed against the over-booking. However, due to computer system failure, the subsequent confirmation of 15 seats was not registered in the System. Consequently at the time of check-in only 30 seats could be offered. The group preferred not to travel separately. Indian Airlines operated an additional flight the next day to occommodate the group.

Departmental action against the employees by Air India involved in the silver scrapping

994. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Vigilance Commission indicated Air India for not taking departmental action against some of its employees who were found guilty by the CBI indulging in extraction of

silver from scrapped aircraft parts at Santa Cruz Airport in 1982;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Air Inaia failed to proceed with the departmental enquiry as advised by CVC when the case was brought to its notice; and

(c) if so, what was the reasons for not taking action against the em ployees by the Air India?

'THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a)' to (c) Investigation of Central Bureau of Investigation had revealed a case of alleged extraction of silver from scrapped engine parts in an Air India workshop. Air-India initiated departmental proceedings on the advice of Central Vigilance Commission. Simultaneously, Central Bureau of Investigation, Bombay had filed a case against the official concerned in a court of law but the official was acquitted hy the court. Accordingly, Air-India also dropped the departmental proceedings. However, upon the insistence of Central Vigilance Commission on departmental proceedings, action has been initiated by Air-India.

Gains from World Book Fair

995. PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the concrete results of recent World Book Fair held recently in terms of (i) the number of titles sold and their value, (ii) the number of Indian titles sold vis-a-vis foreign titles and their value and (iii) the number of international joint publication agreements reached and the book and publication exchange agreements arrived at;

(b) the cost of organising the fair and the returns made out of it; and

(c) the experiences and views gathered from authors, publishers ana book sellers who participated in the fair?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Commercial and other benefits of the 8th World Book Fair held at New Delhi from 5-15 February, 1988 cannot be measured in tangible terms. It is estimated that more than 2.75 lakh visitors visited the fair. Indian Publishing Industry received unparalleled exposure among readers, scholars, librarians, journalists; authors; publishers and booksellers of the world, lt is too early to assess total commercial benefits, as final settlement of trade terms, royalty, copyright permission, etc. takes time.

The total expenditure on the World Book Fair is estimated to be about Rs. 60 lakhs out of which a sum of. Rs. 28 lakhs was received as rental of stalls from the participants.

Seminars/workshops on different aspects of publishing were organised during the World Book Fair. The authors, publishers and booksellers who participated in the seminars/ workshops exchanged their ideas and experiences. The Book Fair enabled the readers, authors, oublishers; librarians and booksellers to get acquainted with the latest developments taking place in Publishing and Printing Industry of India and other countries of the world. The organisation of the World Book Fair was generally appreciated.